29 / 1 Wards Institution Street
Simla P.O., Calcutta
The 15th March 1922

My dear Mr. Mirza,

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 5th inst. I had already learnt from the newspapers of the sudden illness of Sir Kanhaiyalal and was about to make enquiries. I am sorry to hear that the attack is so severe as to necessitate his retirement. I pray to God for his early recovery and for many years more of health and happiness to him. Apart from the Dewanship, he has a position & scope for usefulness in the State as its premier nobleman and if it pleases God to give him health and strength, he can even in retirement be of great service to his motherland and its beneficient Ruler.

As regards Mr. Banerji it is the unexpected that has happened. The position of the I.C.S. and other Imperial services, as a senior member of the I.C.S. was explaining the other day, has suffered much as regards prospects owing to the Reforms, as some of the highest appointments will now go to non-officials - From Mr. Banerji's

was some trouble about old Mr. Venkatakrishnayya. I hope it was nothing serious and that he has not displeased H.H. the Maharaja in any way. I also heard a rumour that Mr. Hyder Hussein was in some sort of trouble about some alleged connection with the Khilafat movement. It is difficult to believe that a person so careful and sedate as Mr. H.H. will lend himself to any sort of indiscretion.

With the arrest of the Mahatma and the resignation of Mr. Montagu — or shall we say dismissal for so it is — the political situation is exceedingly uncertain. Well informed people here do not think that Lord Reading will resign. But some fear that if the Govt. go too far in the direction of repression, violence on the part of the people may break out in some form or another especially as the Hope priest for non-violence will be silenced. Happily these questions do not trouble you much in Mysore but there who remember the terrible anarchist crimes, which took place in these parts a few years ago have every reason to feel horrified at even the remotest prospect of their recrudescence.

Trusting that this will find you in the enjoyment of excellent health & spirits & with the kindest regards,

I am yours sincerely
J.S. Chakravarti

point of view it would therefore be very good if he succeeds to the Dewanship. He will have our best wishes for success in the important office and we shall all be delighted to see that he proves to be of real service to the people of the country and a devoted adviser & trusted servant of His Highness the Maharaja.

As regards my son, would you very kindly let me know in what branches he may get training in the Iron & Distillation works, what period the training will take and what he will be fit for thereafter? I am very anxious that he should be trained in a useful industrial line like that, provided he can readily get employment or start a small industry of his own after the training is over. What chances of employment or of starting a business of his own will he have if he undergoes training say for 3 years at the works? Which line - the metallurgical or the chemical - would you advise? I shall esteem it a great favour if you will kindly bestow some little thought on the subject and as a dear old friend give me the best advice in the matter.

I would not press for a decision of the Subsidy question just now. Even Governments are human and a Govt with over 30 crores of deficit in its central budget and with provinces all clamouring for relief from contributions cannot be reasonably expected to be in a generous mood. Mysore's claim in the matter is just and is sure to be favourably considered if firmly and judiciously urged at the proper time. The C & M states question however stands on a different footing and may be pressed. Action may be taken as far as India has conceded already, and the residuary questions becomes discussed. As regards the reforms, I hope Mr. Banerji will take a more sympathetic view now than he did formerly, though it is difficult to do so for a man brought up in the old bad traditions of the Indian Civil service. Where the interests of the Rulers and the ruled are so identical as they are in Mysore, there is nothing like training the people to manage their own affairs as far as they are matters amenable to popular control.

In a few days, I shall complete 25 years' service & it is my intention to take some leave in the near future for rest and travel. Some months back when a First class Indian state applied for the loan of my services, the Govt of India replied that they could not spare me until the financial and audit readjustments due to the reforms were over. It may therefore be difficult to get leave now, but I shall make an earnest attempt to get away for a time and I hope I shall succeed.

A few days ago I read in the papers that there